

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Spring Brook Marina Vessel Explosion - Removal Polrep  
Initial and Final Removal Polrep

975956



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region V

**Subject:** POLREP #1  
Initial and Final Report  
Spring Brook Marina Vessel Explosion  
NA  
Seneca, IL  
Latitude: 41.2995435 Longitude: -88.6281294

**To:** Douglas Ballotti, U.S. EPA  
Sam Borries, U.S. EPA  
Phil Wire, Illinois DNR  
Jerry Willman, Illinois EPA  
Scott Johnson, Illinois OSFM  
Wayne Babcock, U.S. Department of Interior  
Valencia Darby, U.S. DOI  
Annette Trowbridge, U.S. Fish & Wildlife  
Richard Boes, USCG NPFC  
Michael Salvati, USCG MSU Chicago  
Robert Howe, Seneca Fire District  
Fred Moore, La Salle County EMA

**From:** Tom Mendez, OSC

**Date:** 5/29/2022

**Reporting Period:** 5/28/2022 - 5/29/2022

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	NA	<b>Contract Number:</b>	
<b>D.O. Number:</b>		<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	
<b>Response Authority:</b>	OPA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Emergency
<b>Response Lead:</b>	EPA	<b>Incident Category:</b>	
<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>	
<b>Mobilization Date:</b>	5/28/2022	<b>Start Date:</b>	5/28/2022
<b>Demob Date:</b>	5/29/2022	<b>Completion Date:</b>	5/29/2022
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>		<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	
<b>FPN#:</b>	UCGPE22508	<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

#### 1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

Sunken pleasure craft "Run Runner" located at a marina fueling station located on the Illinois River.

##### 1.1.2.1 Location

Illinois River Mile Marker 252. Spring Brook Marina, 623 West River Drive, Seneca, Illinois 61360.

##### 1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Actual release of marine fuel and oil to the Illinois River from a sunken vessel involved in an explosion and fire.

#### 1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Initial air monitoring in the vicinity of the sunken vessel showed low levels of VOCs and Benzene (< 5ppm). Though absorbent boom was placed by a contractor to the marina, the vessel and containment area was found to be releasing fuel and oil to the Illinois River on the evening of 5/28/2022 and morning of 5/29/2022. There was a threat of continued releases from marine salvaging and cleanup operations conducted on 5/29/2022. In addition, the marina was populated due to the presence of other watercraft on a holiday weekend, so air emissions and odors were of concern.

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

Continuous air monitoring and oversight of marine salvage operations was being conducted by EPA and START. EPA coordinated with State and local agencies, the marina owner, and the marine salvage contractor to safely lift and remove the vessel from the water.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

Containment boom was placed around the sunken vessel prior to any inspection, diving and salvage operations. Once in place, divers inspected the vessel, and raised it with straps, pumps and inflatable floats. The marina lifted the vessel from the water using a crane and removed it from the river. Air monitoring for VOCs, LEL, and Benzene was conducted continuously around the vessel and marina, with no sustained detections above action levels observed.

The boat was successfully lifted (by the insurance contractor) and placed on dry marina property for further investigation by law enforcement and other agencies. Proper measures were taken to mitigate any further environmental damage and preserve any evidence (plastic tarp under boat, absorbents around perimeter, area sectioned off and under video surveillance).

#### 2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

The owner/operator of the vessel was injured in the explosion/fire. The insurance company for the vessel issued a claim and contracted with Great Lakes Marine Services, LLC to salvage the vessel.

#### 2.1.4 Progress Metrics

##### Regional Metrics

This is an Integrated River Assessment. The numbers should overlap.

Miles of river systems cleaned and/or restored <1

Cubic yards of contaminated sediments removed and/or capped 0

Gallons of oil/water recovered <1gal

Acres of soil/sediment cleaned up in floodplains and riverbanks

Stand Alone Assessment

Number of contaminated residential yards cleaned up

Number of workers on site **20**

Contaminant(s) of Concern **Oil**

Petroleum	8002-05-9	(SF) Surface Oil
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Oil Response Tracking

Estimated volume **<10 gal**

Initial amount released

Final amount collected **<1gal**

**CANAPS Info**

FPN Ceiling Amount **\$15,000**

Estimated used **\$10000**

FPN Number UCGPE22508

Body of Water affected **IL River**

Administrative and Logistical Factors (Place X where applicable)

Precedent Setting

HQ Consultations (e.g.,fracking, asbestos)

Community challenges or high involvement

Radiological

More than one PRP

Endangered Species Act /Essential Fish Habitat issues

Explosives

AOC Historic preservation issues

Residential impacts

UAO NPL site Relocation

DOJ involved Remote location Drinking water impacted

Criminal Charges Have Been Filed\*

Extreme weather or abnormal field season

Environmental justice

Tribal consultation or coordination or other issues Congressional involvement

High media interest

Statutory Exemption for \$2 Million

Hazmat Entry Conducted – Level A, B or C

Incident or Unified Command established

Actual air release (not threatened)

**Green Metrics**

Diesel Fuel Used **0 gallons**

Unleaded Fuel Used **40 gallons**

Alternative/E85 Fuel Used 0

Electricity from electric company 0 kWh

Electric Company Name and Account # Acc#

Electricity from sources other than the electric company no other source used onsite0 kWh

Solid waste reused 0

Solid waste recycled 0

Water Used **0**

**2.2 Planning Section**

**2.2.1 Anticipated Activities**

Waste material (aborbents, boom) will be removed for proper disposal.

**2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities**

None

**2.2.1.2 Next Steps**

None

**2.2.2 Issues**

None

**2.3 Logistics Section**

Site logistics were handled by Spring Brook Marina and Great Lakes Marine Services, LLC.

## 2.4 Finance Section

### 2.4.1 Narrative

UCGPE22508 was issued by USCG NPFC on 5/28/2022 in the amount of \$15,000.

#### Estimated Costs \*

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
<b>Extramural Costs</b>				
TAT/START	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	50.00%
<b>Intramural Costs</b>				
USEPA - Direct	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$500.00	20.00%
USEPA - InDirect	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	50.00%
<b>Total Site Costs</b>	<b>\$17,500.00</b>	<b>\$9,500.00</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>	<b>45.71%</b>

\* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

## 2.5 Other Command Staff

### 2.5.1 Safety Officer

EPA served in this role.

### 2.5.2 Liaison Officer

EPA served in this role.

### 2.5.3 Information Officer

EPA served in this role

## 3. Participating Entities

### 3.1 Unified Command

### 3.2 Cooperating Agencies

United States Coast Guard, Marine Safety Unit, Chicago  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshall  
La Salle County Emergency Management Agency  
Seneca Fire District  
Seneca Emergency Management Agency  
Spring Brook Marina

## 4. Personnel On Site

US EPA - 1  
START (Tetra Tech) - 2  
Great Lakes Marine Services, LLC - 4  
Illinois DNR - 2  
Illinois OSFM - 3  
Seneca Fire - 6  
Seneca EMA - 1  
LaSalle County EMA - 1

Total - 20

## 5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

## 6. Additional sources of information

### 6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

<https://response.epa.gov/springbrookmarina>

### 6.2 Reporting Schedule

This is the final PolRep. No further reporting is anticipated on this incident.

## 7. Situational Reference Materials

None





